

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the following claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for displaying information on ~~the keys of a~~ plurality of keys on a keyboard, comprising:

receiving a request to change the configuration of the plurality of keys ~~keyboard~~ from a first configuration to a second configuration;

determining information to display on each of the plurality of keys ~~keys of the keyboard~~ in the second configuration; and

displaying the information on a surface of each of the plurality of keys ~~keys of the keyboard, wherein the surface of each key is operable to be depressed.~~

Claim 2 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein displaying the information further comprises displaying at least one a Braille letter on the keys of the keyboard each of the plurality of keys.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, ~~wherein each of the keys includes a key cap and a matrix of pins,~~ wherein displaying the information comprises raising one or more pins of ~~the matrix~~ a matrix of pins above the ~~key cap of the keys~~ surface of each of the plurality of keys to form one or more Braille letters.

Claim 4 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the request comprises receiving the request to change the configuration to a Braille configuration mode.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of keys includes a matrix of light emitting devices, wherein displaying the information further comprises activating one or more light emitting devices of the matrix to display the information.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of keys includes a display panel, wherein displaying the information comprises activating one or more pixels of the display panel to display the information.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The method of claim 5, wherein displaying the information comprises displaying at least one of graphics or video on the display panel of the plurality of keys of the keyboard.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein the keyboard includes a configuration panel, wherein receiving the request to change the configuration of the ~~keyboard~~ plurality of keys comprises detecting a user selection of an option from the configuration panel.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the request to change the configuration of the ~~keyboard~~ plurality of keys comprises receiving the request from a processor-based system coupled to the keyboard.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A keyboard, comprising:

~~at least one key, wherein the key is adapted to display at least two symbols-a~~
plurality of keys, wherein a surface of each of the plurality of keys is operable to be
depressed; and

a control unit ~~adapted to~~ configured to cause a display of a first set of symbols
~~symbol on the key on the plurality of keys~~ in a first mode and a display of a second set of
symbols symbol on the key on the plurality of keys in a second mode.


Claim 11 (currently amended): The keyboard of claim 10, wherein ~~the key~~ each of the
plurality of keys comprises ~~a key cap and~~ a plurality of light emitting devices ~~associated~~
~~with the key cap~~ located on the surface.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The keyboard of claim 10, wherein ~~the key~~ each of the plurality of keys comprises a surface and a display panel having one or more pixels located on the surface.

Claim 13 (original): The keyboard of claim 12, further comprising an input interface to receive at least one or graphics data and video data.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The keyboard of claim 13, wherein the control unit is adapted to display the graphics data or video data on the display ~~panel of a plurality of keys~~ panels of each of the plurality of keys.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The keyboard of claim 10, wherein the control unit is adapted to receive a request to change to the second mode.

 Claim 16 (original): The keyboard of claim 10, further comprising a configuration panel adapted to allow a user to operate the keyboard in at least one of the first and second mode.


Claim 17 (currently amended): The keyboard of claim 10, wherein the keyboard includes a character map stored in a memory and wherein the control unit is adapted to display the first ~~symbol on the key~~ set of symbols on the plurality of keys in the first mode and the second ~~symbol on the key~~ set of symbols on the plurality of keys in the second mode based on the information stored in the character map.

Claim 18 (currently amended): The keyboard of claim 10 wherein ~~the key~~ each of the plurality of keys comprises a key-cap surface and a plurality of pins, ~~and wherein one or more of the pins are capable of being raised above the key-cap~~ wherein each of the one or more pins is operable to be raised above the surface.

Claim 19 (currently amended): The keyboard of claim ~~10~~ 18, wherein each ~~pin~~ of the plurality of pins comprises a sleeve having an upper coil and a lower coil adapted to raise or lower the pin.

Claims 20 - 25 (canceled)

Claim 26. (currently amended) An apparatus, comprising:

 a plurality of keys, wherein each of the plurality of keys is operable to be depressed key including a matrix of display elements for displaying information on the key; and
a control unit adapted to:
display a first set of symbols on the plurality of keys in a first mode and a second set of symbols on the plurality of keys in a second mode;
~~determine information to display on the key;~~
~~activate the matrix of display elements of the key to display the determined information;~~
~~detect the selection of the key~~ a selection of a particular key of the plurality of keys; and
~~provide the information~~ information indicative of a corresponding symbol displayed on the key to the a processor-based system in response to detecting the selection of the key.

Claim 27. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the surface of each key ~~the key~~ comprises a matrix of light emitting devices.

Claim 28. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the control unit ~~controller~~ is further adapted to cause the provided symbol ~~information~~ to be displayed on a monitor of the processor-based system.

Claim 29. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein each key ~~the key~~ comprises a matrix of pins capable of rising above ~~a top~~ the surface of the key.

Claim 30. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 29, wherein each key ~~the key~~ comprises a sleeve for each of ~~housing for one or more of~~ the pins of the matrix and wherein each of the sleeves ~~the housing~~ comprises an upper coil for causing the associated pin ~~pins~~ to rise above the top surface of the key.

Claim 31. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein ~~the~~ each sleeve comprises a magnetically movable object positioned below an associated pin ~~the pins~~, wherein the movable object is adapted to rise in response to the upper coil being energized.

Claim 32. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 31, wherein the movable object is adapted to fall in response to the upper coil not being energized, and wherein the associated pin becomes flush with the surface of the key in response to the fall of the movable object.

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~~wherein the movable object falls to a preselected level based on determining that the upper coil of the pin is not charged and wherein a top portion of the pin is substantially aligned with the top surface of the key when the movable object falls to the preselected level.~~

Claim 33 (new): A computer readable medium including program instructions executable to implement a method for displaying information on a plurality of keys on a keyboard, comprising:

receiving a request to change the configuration of the plurality of keys from a first configuration to a second configuration;


determining information to display on each of the plurality of keys in the second configuration; and

displaying the information on a surface of each of the plurality of keys, wherein the surface of each key is operable to be depressed.

Claim 34 (new): The computer readable medium of claim 33, wherein displaying the information further comprises displaying a Braille letter on each of the plurality of keys.

Claim 35 (new): The computer readable medium of claim 33, wherein displaying the information comprises raising one or more pins of a matrix of pins above the surface of each of the plurality of keys to form one or more Braille letters.

Claim 36 (new): The computer readable medium of claim 33, wherein receiving the request comprises receiving the request to change the configuration to a Braille configuration mode.

 Claim 37 (new): The computer readable medium of claim 33, wherein each of the plurality of keys includes a matrix of light emitting devices, wherein displaying the information further comprises activating one or more light emitting devices of the matrix to display the information.

Claim 38 (new): The computer readable medium of claim 33, wherein each of the plurality of keys includes a display panel, wherein displaying the information comprises activating one or more pixels of the display panel to display the information.

Claim 39 (new): The computer readable medium of claim 38, wherein displaying the information comprises displaying at least one of graphics or video on the display panel of the plurality of keys of the keyboard.

Claim 40 (new): The computer readable medium of claim 33, wherein the keyboard includes a configuration panel, wherein receiving the request to change the configuration of the plurality of keys comprises detecting a user selection of an option from the configuration panel.

Claim 41 (new): The computer readable medium of claim 33, wherein receiving the request to change the configuration of the plurality of keys comprises receiving the request from a processor-based system coupled to the keyboard.

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Claim 42 (new): A keyboard, comprising:

a plurality of keys, wherein a surface of each of the plurality of keys is operable to be depressed; and

a control unit configured to cause a display of a first set of symbols of a first language on the plurality of keys in a first mode and a display of a second set of symbols of a second, different language on the plurality of keys in a second mode.
